

## What is erectile dysfunction (ED)?

**Erectile dysfunction\*** is when you cannot get or keep an **erection** firm enough to have sex. You may have ED if you

- can get an erection sometimes, though not every time
- can get an erection, yet it does not last long enough for sex
- are unable to get an erection at all

ED is sometimes called **impotence**; however, doctors use this term less often now.



\*See the Pronunciation Guide for tips on how to say the words in **bold** type.